

I strenuously object to the limited manner in which the FCC has conducted a hearing regarding media ownership, and the apparent efforts by the FCC to undermine protection for financial independence in our primary media outlets. The existing guidelines were carefully crafted to reduce the risk of totalitarianism, which cannot be adequately countered in any country without the guarantee of free and opposing viewpoints in the primary media outlets. The present increase in the number of secondary media outlets in some venues does not compensate for the potential loss of independent ownership. The trend is for alternative media outlets to conglomerate, and so these cannot be depended on to operate independently over the long term. I respectfully request hearings on this matter be conducted at numerous sites throughout the country, including major public universities and metropolitan centers.